

(b) An operator may comply with any of the requirements of paragraph (c) of this section through participation in a public service program, such as a one-call system, but such participation does not relieve the operator of responsibility for compliance with this section. However, an operator must perform the duties of paragraph (c)(3) of this section through participation in a one-call system, if that one-call system is a qualified one-call system. In areas that are covered by more than one qualified one-call system, an operator need only join one of the qualified one-call systems if there is a central telephone number for excavators to call for excavation activities, or if the one-call systems in those areas communicate with one another. An operator's pipeline system must be covered by a qualified one-call system where there is one in place. For the purposes of this section, a one-call system is considered a "qualified one-call system" if it meets the requirements of section (b)(1) or (b)(2) or this section.

(1) The state has adopted a one-call damage prevention program under § 198.37 of this chapter; or

(2) The one-call system:

(i) Is operated in accordance with § 198.39 of this chapter;

(ii) Provides a pipeline operator an opportunity similar to a voluntary participant to have a part in management responsibilities; and

(iii) Assesses a participating pipeline operator a fee that is proportionate to the costs of the one-call system's coverage of the operator's pipeline.

(c) * * *

(2) Provides for notification of the public in the vicinity of the pipeline and actual notification of persons identified in paragraph (c)(1) of this section of the following as often as needed to make them aware of the damage prevention program:

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Issued in Washington, D.C. on November 13, 1997.

Kelley S. Coyner,

Acting Administrator.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 622

[Docket No. 970730185-7206-02; I.D. 111297D]

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Closure of the Recreational Red Snapper Component

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Closure.

SUMMARY: NMFS closes the recreational fishery for red snapper in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of the Gulf of Mexico. NMFS has determined that the annual recreational quota for red snapper will have been reached by November 26, 1997. This closure is necessary to protect the red snapper resource.

DATES: Closure is effective 12:01 a.m., local time, November 27, 1997, through December 31, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Sadler, 813-570-5305.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The reef fish fishery of the Gulf of Mexico is managed under the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico (FMP). The FMP was prepared by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and is implemented under the authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act by regulations at 50 CFR part 622. Those regulations set the recreational quota for red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico at 4.47 million lb (2.03 million kg) for the current fishing year, January 1 through December 31, 1997.

Under 50 CFR 622.43(a), NMFS is required to close the recreational fishery for red snapper when its quota is reached, or is projected to be reached, by publishing a notification to that effect in the **Federal Register**. Based on current statistics, NMFS has determined that the recreational quota for red snapper will have been reached by November 26, 1997. Accordingly, the recreational fishery in the EEZ in the Gulf of Mexico for red snapper is closed effective 12:01 a.m., local time, November 27, 1997, through December 31, 1997.

During the closure, the bag and possession limits for red snapper in or from the EEZ in the Gulf of Mexico are

zero. In addition, in the Gulf of Mexico on board a vessel for which a commercial vessel permit for Gulf reef fish has been issued, the bag and possession limits for red snapper are zero, without regard to where the red snapper were harvested.

Classification

This action is taken under 50 CFR 622.43(a) and is exempt from review under E.O. 12866.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: November 13, 1997.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

50 CFR Part 660

[Docket No. 961227373-6373-01; I.D. 111297A]

Fisheries off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery; Trip Limit Changes

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Fishing restrictions; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces further routine management measures adjusting the Pacific Coast groundfish limited entry fisheries for the *Sebastes* complex and its components, canary and yellowtail rockfish, and the Dover sole, thornyhead, trawl-caught sablefish (DTS) complex and all its components. These actions are authorized by regulations implementing the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP), which governs the groundfish fishery off Washington, Oregon, and California. These changes are intended to keep landings close to the 1997 harvest guidelines and allocations for these species.

DATES: Effective from 0001 hours (local time) November 16, 1997, including trawl vessels operating in the B platoon. These changes remain in effect, unless modified, superseded or rescinded, until the effective date of the 1998 annual specifications and management measures for the Pacific Coast groundfish fishery, which will be